

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6263
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E.O.: 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, DA
SUBJ: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: ASSESSMENT OF THE 34TH SESSION
OF THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (UNHRC)

REF : STATE 72085

1. RESULTS OF 34TH UNHRC WERE DISCUSSED WITH THOMAS RECHNAGEL, CHIEF OF MFA LEGAL AFFAIRS FIRST OFFICE (SEE INFO REQUEST PARA 3). DANISH OBSERVERS TO UNHRC SESSION WERE NOT AVAILABLE (SEE COPENHAGEN 794), BUT RECHNAGEL PREVIOUSLY CONFERRED WITH TEAM ON SESSION'S ACHIEVEMENTS.

2. DENMARK IS IN BASIC ACCORD WITH US ANALYSIS OF SESSION'S RESULTS. THE DANES ARE PLEASED WITH THE SERIOUS APPROACH TAKEN BY DELEGATES AND THE CONTAINMENT OF VITRIOLIC RHETORIC AND POSTURING. DENMARK WAS FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY THE CONSTRUCTIVE ATTITUDE TAKEN BY SEVERAL THIRD WORLD DELEGATIONS, NOTABLY THOSE OF JORDAN, NIGERIA AND SENEGAL, AND THE PROGRESS MADE THROUGH THE UTILIZATION OF "1503" PROCEDURES. THE DANES FEEL THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AD HOC COMMITTEES TO DEAL WITH SOME CONTINUING ISSUES PRIOR TO THE NEXT SESSION
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SUGGESTS THAT CONTINUING PROGRESS IS POSSIBLE.

3. A PROPOS THE CREATION OF A UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, RECHNAGEL INQUIRED INTO THE US CONCEPT OF THE PROPOSED COMMISSIONER'S ROLE: WOULD HE BE AUTONOMOUS OR WOULD HE BE A PART OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S OFFICE?

4. WHILE DENMARK HAD ONLY OBSERVER STATUS AT THE 34TH
SESSION, ITS ROLE AMONG NORDIC COUNTRIES AND CURRENT PRESI-
DENCY OF THE EC ALLOWS DENMARK TO CONTINUE TO FURTHER MUTUAL
HUMAN RIGHTS OBJECTIVES.
DEAN

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Message Attributes

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